

USSN: 09/893,223

Attorney Docket No.: 117-P-1062USD1

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the title as shown below in marked form:

~~APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CLEANING AND RESTORING TILE FLOOR~~
~~SURFACES~~

Please amend the paragraphs at page 1, lines 6 through 15 as shown below in marked form:

Related U.S. Application Data

This patent application is a division of U.S. Serial No. 09/021,106, filed February 12, 1998, now U.S. Patent Number 6,254,462, which is in turn a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/382,906, filed February 3, 1995, now U.S. Patent Number 5,716,260.

Field of the Invention

This invention relates generally to systems for cleaning and restoring hard surfaces such as floors. The invention is particularly useful for maintaining a clean and slip-resistant surface on quarry tile floors.

~~This patent application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/382,906, filed February 3, 1995, now U.S. Patent Number 5,716,260.~~

Please amend the paragraph at page 39, line 2 through page 40, line 3 as shown below in marked form:

As illustrated in Figure 6, the restoration process of the present invention removes the top layer 76 and exposes the floor's pores to in the floor traffic surface 70 77. The schematic view of Figure 6 is exaggerated for clarity; the present invention removes approximately two to three thousandths of an inch from the floor 11. The floor's pores are shallowed, which makes cleaning and drying more efficient and effective. The soils, grease, excess cleaning material, dust, etc., designated in Figure 6 as 69 75, are also removed. The right side of Figure 6 illustrates the composition of the floor 11 after the restoration process of the present invention. The floor traffic surface 70 77 of the floor has small peaks and valleys which are free from soil. The floor traffic surface 70 77 provides excellent slip resistance. Besides providing a clean and slip-resistant floor surface, the present invention may also be used to

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etch a floor surface to provide a bonding tooth for a subsequent surface coating. When used in this patent application, the terms "etching" and "abrasion" do not imply any damage or visible design on the floor's surface; rather, these terms are used to describe the removal of the soils, etc., as described above.

Please amend the paragraph at page 51, lines 1 – 11 as shown below in marked form:

These data show that the acid etch treatment significantly reduces the amount of hard particles (silicon) in the quarry tile, by reducing them from 51% to 39% of the ~~tiles~~ tiles' composition. In contrast, the restoration system of the present invention maintains the amount of hard particles at about 50%, thereby maintaining the integrity and durability of the tile surface. The tile floor treated with the restoration system exhibited an a floor traffic surface elemental composition substantially the same as the core of new, untreated quarry tile. Therefore, the restoration system does not appear to reduce the life expectancy of the tile floor.
